



Attorney's Docket No.: 16924-026001

1743

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gene Parunak et al. Art Unit : 1743
Serial No. : 10/014,520 Examiner : Brian J. Sines
Filed : December 14, 2001
Title : METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR CONTROL OF MICROFLUIDIC DEVICES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF JUNE 25, 2004

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Date of Deposit

October 18, 2004

Signature

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Toni M. Sousa

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

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device comprises an enrichment zone configured to substantially separate an enriched particle sample from the particle-containing liquid and an actuator to remove the enriched particle sample from the enrichment zone with essentially no dilution of the enriched particle sample.

No combination of Wilding and Brody is understood to disclose removing an enriched particle sample from an enrichment zone with essentially no dilution, as recited in claim 19.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1 and 19, as presented herein, and claims dependent therefrom are understood to be patentable over the combination of Wilding and Brody.

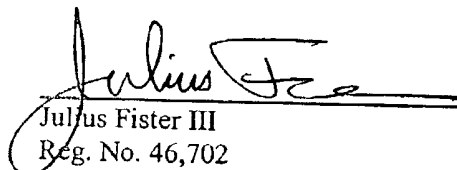
Claims 14, 15, 17, and 31, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilding, Brody, and U.S. Patent No. 6,534,295 to Tai et al. ("Tai").

As discussed above, no combination of Wilding and Brody discloses or suggests the inventions of claims 1 and 19. Tai merely discloses a cell lysis device and does not provide any of the disclosure missing from Wilding and Brody. Accordingly, no combination of the cited references discloses the inventions of claims 1 and 19, let alone dependent claims 14, 15, 17, and 31.

Enclosed is an \$88.00 check for excess claim fees and a \$55.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 18, 2004


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